REMARKS

Claims 1 through 27 have been amended to eliminate multiple dependences and place them in proper form for consideration. Favorable consideration of claims 1 through 23 and 26 through 28 is respectfully requested.

If any fees are incurred as a result of the filing of this paper, authorization is given to charge Deposit Account No. 23-0785.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER

Martin L. Katz, Red. No. 25.011

Date: April 13, 2004

Citicorp Center, Suite 3800 500 West Madison Street Chicago, IL 60661-2511 (312) 876-1800

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Preliminary Amendment (along with any papers referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being sent by Express Mail (EV 348823185) to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on April 13, 2004.

Rebecca J. Willis

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